

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 EUR-25 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 DPW-01 RSR-01 /140 W

----- 080580

R 020420 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9466

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5367

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 1 AT X PLUS 60: THE ICCS AND FPJMC

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM DANANG APR 1  
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE DANANG 0309

1. THIS IS PART II OF CG I'S ASSESSMENT OF MR 1 AT X PLUS 60.
  2. AT X PLUS 60, THE ICCS IS DEPLOYED IN BOTH CEASEFIRE REGIONS I AND II EXCEPT FOR THE TEAMS AT ENTRY POINT AT LAO BAO, ON THE LAOS BORDER, AND GIO LINH, ON THE BEN HAI RIVER WITHIN THE DMZ. THE REGION II TEAM, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM SAIGON, PARTICIPATED IN ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC INVESTIGATIONS TO DATE AT SA HUYNH AS AS RESULT OF WHICH A UNANIMOUS REPORT WAS FILED WITH ICCS CENTRAL IN SAGION WHICH CLEARLY INDICATES GVN CONTROL OF THE AREA ON THE DATE OF THE CEASEFIRE. IT IS LIKELY THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS UNANIMOUS REPORT, THE POLISH CHIEF OF DELEGATION IN DANANG WAS REMOVED. THE SA HUYNH JEFAR SERVED TO UNDERLINE WHAT HAS SINCE BECOME OBVIOUS, NAMELY THAT COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF THE ICCS TEAM FOLLOWING A HARD LINE POLICY GUIDANCE FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE CAPITALS WHICH IMPOSES A LIMITATION ON THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ANY INVESTIGATION WHICH IS POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING TO THE PRG AND DRV. HOWEVER, WHY THE HUNGARIANS AND THE POLES WENT ALONG
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WITH THE SA HUYNH REPORT AT REGION LEVEL REMAINS UNCLEAR. IT MAY BE THAT GUIDANCE FROM THEIR GOVERNMENT HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE FIRM AND CLEAR ENOUGH.

3. AFTER 60 DAYS OF ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION, NOT ONLY ARE THERE PROBLEMS OF POLICY WHICH LIMIT THE UNWILLINGNESS OF THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN INVESTIGATIONS, BUT THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES AS WELL. A RECENT IMBROGLIO IN QUANG NAM ( REPORTED IN DETAIL BY DANANG 30 7) ILLUSTRATES A SECOND PROBLEM, TO WIT: THE LACK OF CLEAR- CUT UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROPER PROCEDURES FOR INITIATION AND CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS, EVEN AMONG THE TEAM MEMBERS WITHIN A SINGLE FRIENDLY DELEGATION.

4. JMC:

THE JMC IN MR I NEVER HAD A CHANCE. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE PRG ELEMENTS ESPECIALLY, BUT ALSO THE DRV ELEMENTS, NEVER INTENDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FPJMC IN MR I. AT ITS GREATEST STRENGTH, THE PERMANENT PRG REPRESENTATION IN REGIONS I AND II AMOUNTED TO TWO LIAISON PERSONNEL IN DANANG. REGION I IN HUE RECEIVED NO PERMANENT PRG REPRESENTATION. AFTER INITIAL BUREAUCRATIC NEGOTIATING WITH THE AMERICAN AND GVN ELEMENTS OF THE JMC, THE COMMUNIST ELEMENT WITHDREW OSTENSIBLY AS A RESULT OF TWO ANTI- COMMUNIST DEMONSTRATIONS ON FEBRUARY 25 IN HUE AND DANANG. MOST OBSERVERS FEEL THAT THE WITHDRAWALS WERE PREDETERMINED AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S MALADROITNESS IN ALLOWING ( AND IN CERTAIN CASES INITIATING) THE VIOLENT DEMONSTRATIONS MERELY GAVE THEM A REASONABLY PLAUSIBLE RATIONALE.

5. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, THE AMERICAN ELEMENT ESPECIALLY ON THE JMC PERFORMED ADMIRABLY IN MONITORING AND ENCOURAGING ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR THE ICCS AND IN GUIDING THE GVN ELEMENT OF THE MJC TO PRESENT COMPLAINTS OF COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS TO THE ICCS.

6. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE PROSPECT:

ALTHOUGH THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE HAS FALLEN IN MR I, IT IS HARDLY THE RESULT OF ICCS OR FPJMC PEACEKEEPING EFFORTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, AT X PLUS 60, THERE IS AN OPERATING ICCS READY TO WORK. IN  
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ORDER FOR THE ICCS TO BECOME EFFECTIVE, TWO THINGS MUST HAPPEN:  
FIRST, THE COMMUNIST MEMBERS MUST BE GIVEN POLICE GUIDANCE FROM  
THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THEIR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN  
INVESTIGATIONS WITHOUT OBSTRUCTIVE TACTICS. SECOND, CLEAR AND  
DIRECT PROCEDURES MUST BE DEVISED, PREFERABLY UNIFORM AMONG  
THE SEVEN CEASEFIRE REGIONS, FOR THE INITIATION AND CONDUCT  
OF INVESTIGATIONS OF COMPLAINTS. AND THESE PROCEDURES MUST  
BE UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED BY THE GVN AS WELL AS THE FOUR  
ELEMENTS OF THE ICCS. WITH REGARD TO THE TPJMC, ITS FUTURE  
WILL HAVE TO BE DETERMINED IN SAIGON AND ELSEWHERE. THERE  
ARE NO SIGNS OF ITS IMMINENT BIRTH IN MR 1. SIGNED THOMSEN  
UNQUOTE  
BENNETT

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